

Farm Prices Continue Decline For Fifth Consecutive Month

Prices Received by Pennsylvania Farmers for their agricultural products declined for the fifth month a report from the Pa. Crop reporting service showed this week.

In mid-May the average price received for all agricultural products dropped slightly more than 1 percent below a month earlier, and averaged 6 percent below a year ago. Seasonally lower prices for milk and the decline in prices of eggs, hogs, lambs, steers and heifers more than off-set the slightly higher prices for cows, sheep broilers and corn.

The Index of Prices Received, which is the barometer of farm income was 216 percent of the 1910-14 equal 100 base. This compared with 219 a month earlier and 231 a year ago.

The mid-May average prices received for livestock and livestock products were 3 percent below the mid-April average prices. Leading the price decline were eggs, wholesale milk, lambs, hogs, steers and heifers. Farm chicken prices were down a half cent per pound while broilers were up one-half cent. In comparing livestock and products prices with a year ago, nearly all prices received were less than in May, 1960 with the exception of hogs which were \$1.50 higher, sheep \$0.50 higher, and butterfat \$.04 higher, the report showed.

Prices received for all crops as a group in mid-May averaged 1 percent above a month earlier but 11 percent below a year ago. A slight increase in prices of all crops except wheat, rye, and buckwheat, were responsible for the 1 percent increase. Mainly responsible for the lower average price level for all crops when compared with a

year earlier is potatoes. Potato prices are down \$1.85 per cwt. from last year's prices for an average of \$2.15 per cwt. received during May 1961.

The Index of Prices Received by Farmers nationally dropped slightly more than 1 percent to 236 percent of its 1910-14 average during the month ended May 15. Lower prices for meat animals, dairy products, and poultry and eggs accounted for most of the decline. Higher prices for cantaloupes, corn, oranges, and apples were partially offsetting. The mid-May index was two percent below a year earlier and the lowest for any month since last August, when it was 234.

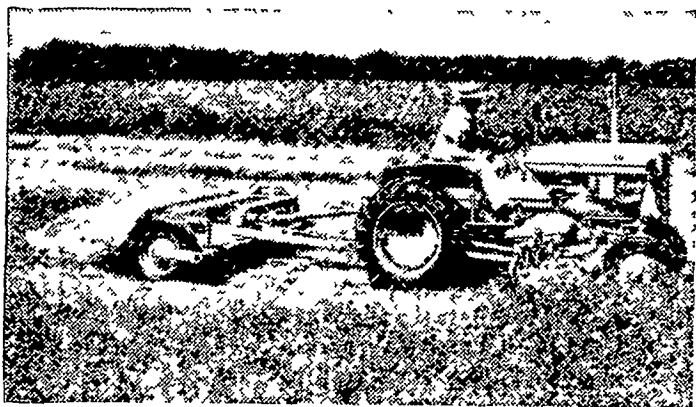
The Index of Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities and Services, including Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates, again stood at 302 on May 15. This was the fourth consecutive month recorded at this all-time high level. Prices Paid for production goods averaged slightly lower in mid-May than a month earlier. Family living items, on the other hand, averaged a little higher. The Index was 1 point higher than a year earlier.

With farm product prices off slightly in May and prices paid unchanged, the Parity Ratio declined 1 point to 78. This was 1 percent lower than in April and 2½ percent lower than a year ago.

BEES ARE SWARMING

Honeybees often get the urge to go swarming at this time of year, and if a swarm of bees seems to be moving in permanently on your premises, a call to any nearby beekeeper will get the unwanted guests moved, says W. W. Clarke, Jr., extension apiculturist

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Small Grains Field Day Is Planned

A field day for small grain growers and seedsmen has been scheduled for next week at the Southeastern Pennsylv-

vania Field Research laboratory farm near Landisville. The field day is scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m. on June 13.

Growers and seedsmen will see the newer varieties of wheat, oats and barley in variety plots. Clarence Bryner and George Berggran, Extension Agronomists from the Pennsylvania State University will be on hand to discuss varieties and weed con-

rol in small grains. The field day is scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m. on June 13.

Lancaster Farming Advertising Pa

MR. POULTRYMAN:

"Hot Weather Will Get You If You Don't Watch Out!"

Yes, summer heat will be here sooner than you think . . .

So, look out for your . . .

BROILERS — PULLETS — LAYERS

Get Ready Now!

DANGER ZONE TABLE - (quote from University of Maryland Fact Sheet #74)

INSIDE TEMP.	RESULT
70°-80°	No danger.
80°-85°	Slight reduction in feed consumption; increased water consumption; only slight danger of heat prostration.
90°-95°	Greatly reduced feed consumption; heat prostrations may be encountered among layers but very few among broilers.
95°-100°	Heat prostrations most likely. Consider emergency measures.
100° plus	Extreme danger. Consider emergency measures at once.

WHAT TO DO

I INCREASE WATER SUPPLY

Use buckets, feed troughs or any means at your disposal to increase water supply because this is nature's way of cooling a chicken - through the respiratory track. Spread water supply over house as birds crowd around fountains in extreme hot weather.

II VENTILATION

Open up. Install temporary fans. There should be a complete change of air every 4 to 5 minutes. This indicates the fan capacity to use.

III ROOFS

Light colored roofs shed the heat best. In protracted hot spells, whitewashing a black roof may pay off. Sprinkling water on the roof is a great help.

IV USE EXTRA LIGHTING

Turn lights on at 2 - 3 A. M. so birds can get feed in the coolest part of the 24 hour period.

V On laying or breeder flocks, double the use of EARLY BIRD HIGH PRODUCER PELLETS #20. Reduce scratch or grain. Go back to normal level after hot spell subsides.

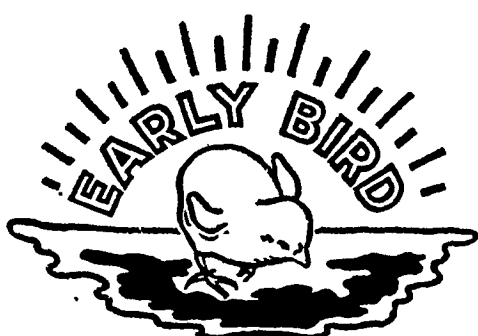
With layers watch supply of calcium as hot weather effects egg shell quality. Sprinkle oyster shells or whatever source of calcium you are using over mash in feeders.

VI With broiler flocks in extreme hot weather, moistening the feed is desirable because what the birds need most is extra water.

VII Use less litter in the summer than in the winter so birds can get closer to the cooler floor.

NOTE

- Collect eggs often.
- Maintain proper humidity and temperature in egg room.
- Do not forget to give your young birds space to grow. Move them to range or give them plenty of room if they are raised in confinement.



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